

## VICTIM CATCHES OLD BUNCO MAN.

Grand Central Pete, Famous for His Operations in New York, Fails in Second Effort to Fleec Harris.

CAUGHT HIM FOR \$25 ONCE.

Confidence Man Didn't Recognize His Former Victim, Began Telling Him Same Old Story and Was Turned Over to a Policeman.

So long as Grand Central Pete, the famous bunco-steerer, confined his attention to farmers from Connecticut, Massachusetts and other rural communities he was as safe as his licensed fellow-freebooters, the cabmen. But business got slow at the Grand Central Station. Many of the regular customers of the old man died and he was compelled to go out and work among the natives. That is why "Grand Central Pete" is in the Tombs.

The aged bunco-steerer was arraigned in the Court of Special Sessions yesterday on complaint of Thomas Harris, seventy-eight years old, of No. 251 West Ninety-first street. From the story told by Harris, it is perhaps just as well that the career of "Grand Central Pete" has been temporarily suspended. The ancient confidence operator is losing his astuteness—perhaps his eyesight—as the tale of his victim will show.

Got \$25 from Him.

Harris met Grand Central Pete in Ninety-first street in November. The confidence man grabbed his fist and persuaded him that they were old chums. Then he borrowed \$25, with which to bring the body of his brave soldier son home from Cuba, giving Harris as security for the loan a watch that alone has the rising sun and a ring with a garnet in it as big as a biscuit.

Two days later the watch turned a superior green and Mr. Harris broke the garnet, while running it. He took the watch to a jeweler and learned that the watch sold at retail for \$9 and the garnet for \$16.

Being a New Yorker Mr. Harris determined to keep his loss to himself. He held his peace for three months until, the day before Christmas, he met "Grand Central Pete" again in Ninety-first street.

The poor old confidence man failed to recognize his former victim and started again in the identical way he had used when getting the \$25 before. When Harris had arrested he had a pocketful of shiny watches and garnet rings. The watches turned green on the way to the station house.

When arrested yesterday, counsel for the "bunco steerer" interposed a demurrer to the complaint, and the case went over. "Grand Central Pete" was asked to furnish bonds for \$500. He could not do so, and was taken to the Tombs.

The career of "Grand Central Pete" is an instructive illustration of the fact that a man has to do in New York to succeed is to attend strictly to business. "Grand Central Pete" attended strictly to business and he succeeded. Whether or not he has any money is not known. He ought to have money.

Caught Many a Farmer.

When he was a younger man he took to his place at the Grand Central Station every day, rain or shine, on the green lookouts for sort money from the rural districts. The simple farmer got to know him well. Many and many an old State found him a welcome sight.

Thought of leaving home without putting by a separate bank-roll for his old friend, Grand Central Pete. He knew as would meet the confidence man as soon as he got off the train. And he would not think of refusing to be beguiled by one so sleek and venerable in appearance.

The real name of Grand Central Pete is Peter Lane. He is a veteran in crime, but his services in prison have been rewarded with a white mustache, kindly eyes and white hair that he looks like a countryman out of a boy's story.

His victims number thousands. Although he has operated all over the city and in other cities, he did most of his work at Forty-second street and Fourth avenue.

Hence his name.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 30.—An attempt was made by a lone robber to hold up a northbound express of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad as the train was entering South Louisville this morning.

Conductor Keene was going through the sleeper in which were the porter, the Pullman conductor and one passenger, J. E. Moore. A masked man sprang at Keene from a corner and commanded him to throw up his hands. Keene instead grappled with the intruder. A bullet from the robber's pistol stunned him and the highwayman pulled the signal cord.

While the train was slowing down he robbed the Pullman conductor and Mr. Moore, securing \$5 from the latter. As the train stopped the robber left the car.

Conductor Keene meanwhile had recovered his senses, and having secured a Winchester left the train in pursuit of the assailant. He fired several shots, and after one of them the robber uttered a cry, but escaped.

GILMAN WILL NOT RESIGN.

Sumner that it was Preliminary to Odell-Platt Fight.

(Special to The Evening World.)

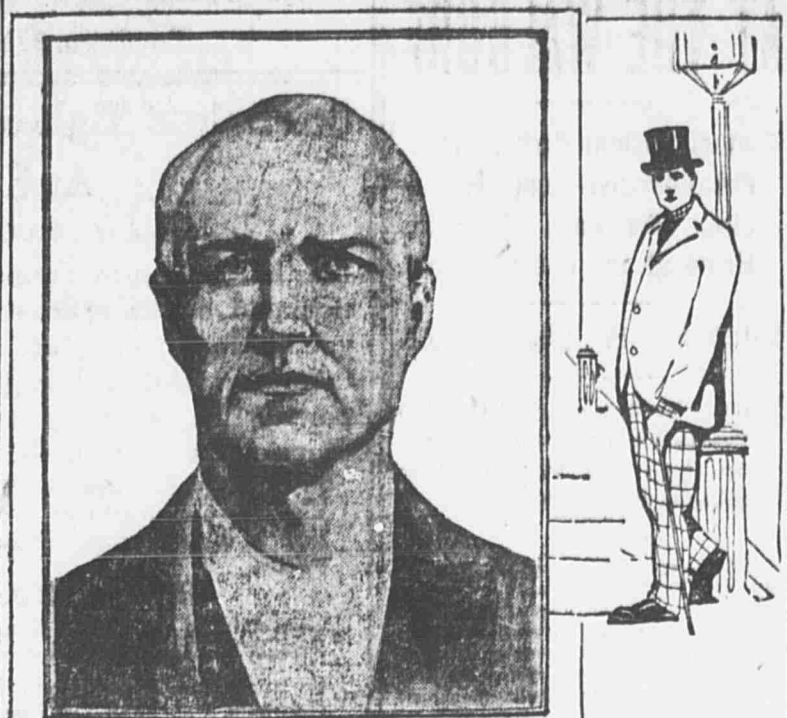
ALBANY, Dec. 30.—State Comptroller Miller announced today that there would be no re-election changes in his department after Jan. 1. He said that Deputy Comptroller Theodore P. Gilman and Second Deputy W. G. Merriman will be his assistants for two years.

It had been rumored that request had been made for Mr. Gilman's resignation. A preliminary fight in the Odell-Platt fight, which all signs now point to be a very close one, Mr. Gilman said.

He had not sent in his resignation. He had not sent in his resignation.

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## GRAND CENTRAL PETE, CONFIDENCE MAN, CAUGHT BY AN OLD VICTIM.



PETER LANE

## MACHINERY TORE OFF MAN'S ARM. WOMAN FOLLOWS ST. CLAIR IN DEATH

Foreman in Pasteboard Factory Is Caught in Great Belt and Whirled to Ceiling.

Companion of Special Policeman in Gas-Filled Room Dies in Bellevue.

Lewis Well, twenty-three years old, of No. 21 East Seventh street, foreman in the pasteboard box factory of George Jaeger, at Nos. 125-127 Mulberry street, while fixing the beltting that operates the different machines on the third floor of the building to-day became tangled in the machinery and was horribly mangled, his right arm being torn off just below the shoulder.

On the floor where Well has charge of a score of men a huge piece of leather beltting hung up through the floor and attached to a wheel fixed in the ceiling which operates what is called a cross-counter shaft. Early to-day the big belt slid off of the operating wheel and called for quick action to repair it.

Well seized it in both hands to pull it back and while doing so his sleeve was caught between the belt and the surface of the wheel and he was whirled up to the ceiling, where his body was dragged over the cross-counter shaft.

As his arm was dragged between the cross wheels it was torn from his body at the shoulder and fell to the floor. Then his body was whirled under the belt, and he was dragged over the cross-counter shaft three times around the machinery could be stopped, and his legs and other arm were broken in a dozen places and crushed and mangled.

This all happened in an instant, and George Kline, Well's assistant, rushed to the lever on the wall and turned off the machinery. Then he and Engineer Paul Prints got a ladder and dragged Well's body out of the machinery. An ambulance was summoned and Well was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital, where it was said that there was a bare chance of his recovery.

JOHN J. DICKEY DEAD.

Western Union Superintendent Expires Suddenly of Pneumonia.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 30.—John J. Dickey, superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph Company, is dead at his home in this city from pneumonia.

Mr. Dickey's illness was sudden. Grip developed from a severe cold, and pneumonia soon followed. He was one of the oldest men in the employ of the Western Union.

MISS MARY BARBER TO WED.

She is Mrs. McKinley's Favorite Niece.

CANTON, O., Dec. 30.—Miss Mary Barber, niece of Mrs. McKinley, will be married this evening to Ralph Hartzell, a young attorney of Denver. Mr. Hartzell is the son of one of the oldest Canton families and was the schoolmate of the bride.

Miss Barber is the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Barber, and spent much time with Mrs. McKinley in the White House and on the extended trips made by the Presidential party.

Ex-Congressman Is Dead.

DAYTON, O., Dec. 30.—H. L. Morey, former Congressman from this district, died today at his home in Hamilton, O. Death was due to apoplexy.

JOY MAY BE POSTMASTER.

(Special to The Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Representative Joy, of Missouri, who was beaten for re-election, will possibly be the next Postmaster of St. Louis. The term of the present Postmaster, Fred Baumhoff, will expire in February, and because of charges filed against him he will probably not be reappointed.

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## NO CHRISTMAS FUND, SO TRIED TO DIE

Boy of Seventeen, Grieved Because He Couldn't Give Presents, Took a Dose of Acid.

Peter Schmidt, seventeen, of No. 400 East Forty-seventh street, was arraigned before Magistrate Barlow, in the Yorkville Police Court to-day, on a charge of attempted suicide. The boy told the Magistrate that he had endeavored to end his life on the day after Christmas because he had not had the money to buy his sweetheart or any of his friends presents.

Young Schmidt, who was formerly a driver for the United States Express Company, has had no employment for more than a month and lived with his brother. Shortly before Christmas he became very despondent because he had no money, and he grieved so that on Friday he decided to end his life, and bought a bottle of carbolic acid. In the evening, as he was walking along Third avenue with two of his friends, he drank half the contents of the bottle. They called a policeman and he was taken to the Flower Hospital.

When the boy arrived at the hospital he was unconscious, and there was found in his pocket a pathetic letter, in which he stated that he did not wish to be a burden any longer. In the letter there was a picture of himself and Winnie Richardson, his sweetheart, and he asked his brother to have it placed with his body in the coffin.

When Magistrate Barlow heard the boy's story he discharged him and gave him a letter to a friend, in which he recommended him for employment.

## Children's Reefers, \$1.00

Sizes 2 to 7; formerly priced from \$2.00 to \$4.00; dark blue and gray. Reason—Broken sizes and lots.

## Children's Overcoats, \$2.50

Sizes 2, 3, 4; some were \$7.50, others \$5.00 and \$4.00. Clearing the value. Top Coats at reduced prices.

## VINCENT, 6th Ave., at 12th St.

To-morrow, Wednesday, December 31.

## Irish Point Lace Curtains

Worth \$3.75 Pair, at \$2.50 Pair.

We place on sale to-morrow a special purchase of 300 pairs of Irish Point Lace Curtains, made on an excellent quality of net and in a fine assortment of pretty designs—their real \$2.50 value \$3.75 pair, offered to-morrow at, per pair

Laces to Be Closed Out

At Less Than Half Price.

About 500 pieces of Lace, embracing nearly every make and every shade—suitable for use in many different ways—best qualities, good widths and new patterns—3 to 12 yard lengths and regularly sold from 25c. to 60c. per yard, now marked to close out at

10c., 15c. and 20c. per Yard.

All Silk Umbrellas \$2.85.

Were \$4.50 and \$5.00.

26-inch All Silk Umbrellas, with natural wood, pearl, ivory, gun metal, cape horn and other fancy handles, with silk case and tassels, in black, brown, blue and wine color. All that were marked \$4.50 and \$5.00 to be closed out at, each

Handkerchiefs at 10c. Each.

Were 15c. to 25c. Each.

An entire and absolute clearance must be made of all Handkerchiefs of every description that were slightly mussed from handling during the rush of the holidays, and that were then specially marked at 15c. and 25c. each. They go now at, each

Sixth Avenue, 20th to 21st Street.

The Blyn Shoe

Hyile's Patent Calf is the perfection of smooth Patent Leather for finest Dress Shoes. Hyile's Patent Colt and Imperial Horse Hide Exposed are also splendid leathers for dressy, durable shoes. We ask your special attention to our complete lines of Men's and Women's Shoes in these leathers for Dress and Street Wear.

Four Blyn Stores—easy to reach—quick to reach. Finest stocks and fullest values. An almost endless variety of Holiday Slippers for Men and Women. Dancing Pumps in large variety, very moderate prices. Shoes for Men and Women, \$1.50 to \$4.00.

I. BLYN & SONS, GUARANTEE SHOE CO.

6th Ave. and 27th Street. Third Ave. and 13th Street. 600 8th Ave., 39th and 40th Sts. 163 Bowery, near Broome.

Factories: 401, 403, 405 East 9th St.

3.50

5th Ave. and 12th Street. 163 Bowery, near Broome.

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## SIMPSON CRAWFORD & Co.

Take Escalator to Second Floor.

## To-Morrow--Last Day of the Pre-Inventory Sale

## Our Piano Family.

Piano Warerooms, Fourth Floor.

THE KNABE.

GABLER, PACKARD, BUSH & GERTS, PRICE & TEEPLE.

The above well-known instruments represent our regular Piano family. But by good fortune, not altogether chance, we are able to offer you, with all confidence in their merit,

A Few Sample Pianos for \$165.00 to \$195.00.

These instruments, if bought in the regular way, would cost from \$200 to \$300 apiece. Therefore by all means avail yourself of this Piano offering. You may wait for years before you will find a similar gathering to choose from at such prices.

These Pianos are in mahogany, rosewood, walnut and ebonized finish cases, and justify extravagant expressions of praise. However, we prefer to let you make your own discoveries. You'll appreciate their virtues, and each instrument will be a lasting bond between the fortunate purchaser and the Simpson Crawford Co. We invite inspection.

## The Cecilian—The Perfect Piano Player.

The only instrument that can do the work of practised fingers without being in any sense mechanical. It is so simple in construction that a child can manipulate it, and yet it is the delight of musicians. But the only way in which you can understand the wonderful features of the CECILIAN is to hear, examine and play it yourself. We invite you to do so. The price of the CECILIAN is \$250. Informal recitals every day from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M.

Any instrument may be purchased here on small monthly payments if so desired.

## Splendid Book Values.

The following Books are selected from broken lines and broken series of Books which we prefer selling at very low prices in place of invoicing. We clear our stock while you reap the benefit.

Three Classical Books, ROBINSON CRUSOE, SCARLET LETTER and STERNE'S SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY, deckled edge; well bound, printed on special paper, published at 75c. each

ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER, MARK TWAIN'S BEST BOOK; regular \$2.75 edition, for

RIDPATH'S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, 2-vol. edition, fully illustrated; double the value, for

We still have about 100 of the famous illustrated HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND NAVY, size 14x18, all color work; value \$3.50, while they last

BATTLES AND LEADERS OF THE CIVIL WAR, illustrated by well-known participants on each side; four large 8vo. vols., club, \$12.95; half morocco

Handkerchiefs at Great Reductions.

First Floor.

We will sell out all our slightly mussed Handkerchiefs at great price reductions. None are damaged or imperfect, but somewhat creased or a little wrinkled; just as good as new after the first washing. The goods are still marked with the original prices, from which the following reductions are made:

60c. Handkerchiefs, men's and women's; plain linen, initialed or lace and embroidered

35c. and 38c. Handkerchiefs, men's and women's; plain linen, initialed or lace and embroidered

25c. Handkerchiefs, men's and women's; plain linen, initialed or lace and embroidered

18c. and 20c. Handkerchiefs, men's and women's; plain linen, initialed or lace and embroidered

12 1/2c. Handkerchiefs, men's and women's; plain linen, initialed or lace and embroidered

Men's Neckwear for New Year.

First Floor.

We take this opportunity of clearing our stock of men's fine Neckwear. The Scarfs are all of the very finest imported silk, the newest colorings, large folds or open squares; regular price \$3.00 and \$3.50 each

Men's high-class pure silk Scarfs: light and dark coloring; black or white; the approved shapes, to tie as Ascots or Once-over or Four-in-hands

Keiser Barthelemy Scarfs: the new effects, with black grounds and beautiful swivel figures, Four-in-hand shape

Keiser Barthelemy Club Ties

225 pairs of the finest Holiday Suspenders; pure silk web, light tints and white, elastic backs, all mounted with heavy large Sterling Silver Buckles; many of the buckles are worth more than the prices of the braces; regular price \$1.50 to \$2.00 each; your choice for

Valuable Oil Paintings Reduced.

Picture Salon, Fourth Floor.

We have made sweeping reductions in prices on our Oil Paintings. They are all in heavy gold frames, and were exceptional values even at their former prices:

1 Painting, former price \$135, now \$95

1 Painting, former price \$70, now \$50

1 Painting, former price \$125, now \$75

2 Paintings, former price \$60, now \$45

1 Painting, former price \$35, now \$22.50

1 Painting, former price \$100, now \$65

1 Painting, former price \$90, now \$60

1 Painting, former price \$60, now \$37.50

1 Painting, former price \$200, now \$135

1 Painting, former price \$85, now \$60

1 Painting, former price \$75, now \$55

3 Paintings, former price \$100, now \$75

1 Painting, former price \$60, now \$42.50

1 Painting, former price \$200, now \$145

1 Painting, former price \$85, now \$50

1 Painting, former price \$200, now \$135

1 Painting, former price \$300, now \$190

1 Painting, former price \$350, now \$250

1 Painting, former price \$250, now \$185

## Yellowstone Park.

An Illustrated Lecture, by Prof. Basil Burwell, describing the beauties and freaks of nature in this wonderful region, will be given in our Lecture Hall on the Sixth Floor, Wednesday afternoon at 2.30. All are welcome.

## Children's \$15.00 Coats \$7.50.

Second Floor.

Children's Coats, of Cloths and Cheviots, in beautiful shades of tan, navy, brown, gobein and white; handsomely trimmed; all this season's goods; sizes from six months to five years; not all sizes in every style; value \$15.00, for

All our broken lines of higher priced Children's Coats, ranging in values up to \$5.50, including some very handsome French models at half price.

Colored Caps and Bonnets; of Velvet, Faille and Bengaline Silks, beautiful shades of tan, brown, navy, light pink and blue; balance of this season's goods at half price.

INFANTS' SHORT HAND-MADE FRENCH DRESSES; of fine quality French Nainsook; in two very pretty styles; one with entire yoke of hand-made cuffs, ruffle around yoke and over shoulder, edged with Valenciennes lace, finished with herringbone stitching; the other style with Bishop effect, neck and sleeves edged with Valenciennes lace; sizes 6 months to 2 years; value \$1.98, for

CHILDREN'S CANTON FLANNEL DRAWERS; extra good quality; Knickerbocker style; in 8 year size only; value 19c. for

Women's Outerwear.

Third Floor.

Women's \$18.00 and \$23.50 Pedes-

trienne Suits for

Women's \$7.50 Dress Skirts

Women's \$8.75 Kersey Coats

Women's Waists for Very Little.